

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-3124

Loreley African American Survey District

Baltimore County, MD

1870-1950s

The Loreley African American Survey District is located in the Eleventh District of Baltimore County. There are two small sections of Loreley, one of which is situated between Philadelphia Road and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad immediately west of General Pulaski Highway. The second area is located east of Pulaski Highway along Loreley Road. The most significant African American residential area is this latter section of eighteen dwellings sited along Loreley Road. The survey district is comprised of approximately 11 historic structures and 11 buildings are non-historic. The area now called Loreley, was not so called during the late 19th century according to the G.M. Hopkins Atlas of 1877. This rural agricultural area did not begin to change until the end of the 19th century and the first decade of the 20th century. Loreley became a thickly settled area between 1877 and 1915. A platted town was laid out and mapped on the 1915 Bromley Atlas. A few of the buildings noted are the old mill, school house, church, and the residence of Pensel.

The three important institutions of the African American community, Asbury Methodist Church (BA-357), Loreley School (BA-131), and Loreley School (BA-358) are sited directly on Philadelphia Road. The Asbury Methodist Church is denoted on the 1850 Sidney Atlas as a 'colored' meeting house. With the name Asbury M.E. Church, it is identified on the 1877 atlas. According to the church's cornerstone, the building was rebuilt in 1913. The Asbury United Methodist Church was the only African American church in Loreley throughout the 20th century.

The community along Loreley Road originally consisted of an entirely African American populace. There are seven historic and eleven non-historic dwellings in this small area. These houses vary in form from one to another unlike numerous African American neighborhoods throughout Baltimore County such as Granite, Bare Hills, and Lutherville. The houses are all wood-frame and range in size from one to two stories in height, are capped either by cross-gable roofs or side-gable roofs that are sheathed with asphalt shingles. The houses have been re clad with either asbestos shingles, aluminum siding, or vinyl siding. The foundations that were visible at the time of the survey include concrete block for the historic buildings and poured concrete for the non-historic dwellings.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3124

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Loreley African American Survey District
other

2. Location

street and number Philadelphia Road, Allender Road, Loreley Road not for publication
city, town White Marsh X vicinity
county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Multiple Ownership
street and number telephone Not Available
city, town state zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: tax map 73
city, town Towson liber n/a folio n/a

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	12 10 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	12 10 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			3

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-3124

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Loreley African American Survey District is located northeast of White Marsh, Maryland in the Eleventh District of Baltimore County. There are two small sections of Loreley, one of which is situated between Philadelphia Road and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad immediately west of General Pulaski Highway. The second area is located east of Pulaski Highway along Loreley Road. The survey district is comprised of approximately 10 historic structures and 11 non-historic dwellings. The community is augmented with the Asbury African Methodist Episcopal Church (BA-357), and the two Loreley Schools (BA-358 and BA-131). Several historic houses are extant in the community of Loreley, in the area between Philadelphia Road and Pulaski Highway. However, it is difficult to discern their association with African Americans. This applies to the dwellings included in the district located at the far southwestern section of Old Philadelphia Road. The village of Loreley is centered around Allender Road, Station Road, Carrington Road, Bonaparte Avenue, and extends east across the Railroad and Pulaski Highway embracing Loreley Road. The most significant African American residential area is the section of eighteen dwellings sited along Loreley Road east of Pulaski Highway. This latter area is bordered by a landfill, Gunpowder Falls, and the Gunpowder Falls State Park.

The Asbury A.M.E. Church, rebuilt in 1913, at 11501 Philadelphia Road, is a wood-frame building standing one-story high and three bays wide capped with a front-gable roof. It rests on a parged random-rubble stone foundation, is clad with vinyl siding, and measures three bays deep. Features of the church include 2/2 lancet-arched windows wood-sash windows, gable vestibule standing on a pier foundation, and overhanging eaves, with an asphalt shingle covered roof. The cornerstone reads Loreley M.E. Church, Rebuilt 1913.

Adjacent to the church, the Asbury A.M.E. Church cemetery is sited on a level grassy lot with approximately 125 markers. The markers are arranged in a slightly haphazard fashion with several families clustered together. The headstones are made of granite or marble and include upright slabs, flat, obelisks, rounded, crosses, and tilted. Very few footstones exist throughout the cemetery. Family names in the cemetery include Brown, Holmes, Maxwell, Preston, Williams, Jones, Talbot, Smith, and Drummer. The oldest stone belongs to Hackett from 1870. Several of the stones are either broken or have collapsed.

The Union of Brothers and Sisters School that originally functioned as an African American lodge. It is associated with this African American survey district as well as Forge Road and Loreley African American survey districts. Constructed circa 1890, this wood-frame building stands two stories high and two bays wide and rests on a random-rubble stone foundation. An interior parged chimney rises above the side-gable roof. The first story has one single-leaf entry with a paneled wood door covered with a pent roof. The second story is pierced with three window openings all of which are covered with louvered wood-shutters. The rear window openings are covered with wood plank shutters. A round-arched window pierces the second story of the south elevation. Features include square wood sills, a single-leaf entry on the side (south) elevation, exposed rafters and purlins, and asbestos shingle cladding.

The wood-frame Loreley School (BA-131) at 11514 Philadelphia Road is one-story high and three bays wide and dates to circa 1870. The first historic addition measures three bays deep. The school rests on a parged random-rubble-stone foundation and is capped with a side-gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Covering each of the bays on the façade are three gables supported with knee braces. The single-leaf entry is illuminated with a three-light pointed-arch transom. Other features include German vinyl-siding, 1/1 wood-sash windows, raised foundation, an interior brick chimney, and overhanging eaves. The rear ell addition contains a double-leaf entry, an exterior-end brick chimney, and two bays pierced with three 1/1 windows. A non-historic shed-roof addition was located on the southwest elevation.

One two-story log house stands on Allender Road across from Station Road. The original two-story log house is one-and-a-half stories high capped with a side-gable roof. Rising above the asphalt-shingle roof is a central-interior brick chimney. Projecting from the façade is an 1890s addition two bays wide with a wrap-around porch. The house is clad with weatherboard siding and the gable of the addition is covered diamond-shaped wood shingles. The foundation was not visible at the time of the survey.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3124

Name Loreley African American Survey District

Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The community along Loreley Road originally consisted of an entirely African American populace. There are seven historic and eleven non-historic dwellings in this small area. These houses vary in form from one to another unlike numerous African American neighborhoods throughout Baltimore County such as Granite, Bare Hills, and Lutherville. The houses are all wood-frame and range in size from one to two stories in height, are capped either by cross-gable roofs or side-gable roofs that are sheathed with asphalt shingles. The houses have been reclad with either asbestos shingles, aluminum siding, or vinyl siding. The foundations that were visible at the time of the survey include concrete block for the historic buildings and poured concrete for the non-historic dwellings.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-3124

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1870-1950s

Architect/Builder Unknown

Construction dates 1870-1950s

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Loreley African American Survey District is located in the Eleventh District of Baltimore County. The Eleventh District is bounded to the south by the Twelfth District, to the north by the Tenth District, to the east is Harford County, and to the west is the Ninth and Tenth District. It historically has been one of the largest districts in the County. Before the turn of the century, the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad ran near the southern border whereas the Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York Railway traversed through the center of the district. The main thoroughfares at present and historically, were Harford, Belair, and Philadelphia Roads (each originally functioned as turnpikes). According to the 1877 Hopkins Atlas, public schools and churches were numerous in the area and it was largely agricultural.

A small section of the survey district is centered around a section of Philadelphia Road immediately south of Gunpowder Falls. To the east of the district is the railroad, Pulaski Highway, Gunpowder Falls State Park, and another area of the Loreley African American community. West of the African American survey district of Loreley is I-95. The area now called Loreley, was not so called during the late 19th century according to the G.M. Hopkins Atlas of 1877.(1) This rural agricultural area did not begin to change until the end of the 19th century and the first decade of the 20th century.

Constructed circa 1870, the Loreley Elementary School is depicted on the 1877 map as the only education center for young African American children in the surrounding areas. In the area are several buildings owned by the City of Baltimore. Other buildings in the include a blacksmith shop, a church directly on Philadelphia Turnpike, and an old mill. One resident in the immediate vicinity of what is now considered Loreley was Mrs. R. Knight on the south side of Allender Road. J.K. Pensel is denoted at two parcels on Philadelphia Road. Asbury M.E. Church is located on the 1877 map on a side dirt road off Philadelphia Road. A school house is sited on the right side of Philadelphia Road immediately south of the church. South of the school are properties owned by J. Draayer, Harry Morris, and A.M. Knight.(2)

Loreley became a thickly settled area between 1877 and 1915. A platted town was laid out and mapped on the 1915 Bromley Atlas. A few of the buildings noted are the old mill, school house, church, and the residence of Pensel.(3)

The three important institutions of the African American community, Asbury Methodist Church (BA-357), Loreley School (BA-131), and Loreley School (BA-358) are sited directly on Philadelphia Road. The Asbury Methodist Church is denoted on the 1850 Sidney Atlas as a 'colored' meeting house.(4) With the name Asbury M.E. Church, it is identified on the 1877 atlas.(5) According to the church's cornerstone, the building was rebuilt in 1913. The Asbury United Methodist Church was the only African American church in Loreley throughout the 20th century.

The Loreley School (BA-358) at 11646 Philadelphia Road, is located at the opposite terminus of Allender Road. Built circa 1900, the school was established and built with the proceeds of a sale from the Scholars Plains Property. In 1923, Loreley School was

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No BA-3124

Name Loreley African American Survey District

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

sold to Union of Brothers and Sisters. At some point during the 20th century the school was converted to a single-family residence.

Louis Diggs interviewed Amos Gassaway Harvey, Sr. for his experiences and remembrances of Loreley as an African American community. Harvey's family moved to Loreley from Long Green when he was nine years old. The Harvey family (eventually became a family of 11) were the second African American family to live in Loreley. Residing on a farm on which they produced much of their own food, the Harvey's lived in a two-story log house. Amos Harvey recalls that children came from Bradshaw, Loreley Woods, Rustic Avenue on Philadelphia Road, Kingsville, and Rapsburg to attend Loreley School. The Rosedale Passenger Lines was contracted out by the county to run a bus service for children in Rapsburg and Rustic Avenue to the school.(6)

Two one-room school buildings were used for the Loreley School. One building was grades one through three and the second was four through seven. Several of Harvey's classmates include Louis Couplin, Estella Rheubottom, and Bernice Norton. In the 1940s there were only three high schools available to African American children. These schools were at Sparrows Point, Catonsville, and Towson. The Loreley School has been converted as a community center for African American residents.(7)

Amos Harvey, Sr. stated that during the last half of the 20th century, the period at which he resided in Loreley, there was very little work available for men. A few of the main employers was White's Distillery later changed to Calvert Distillery, and TB Gatch Stone Quarry. One of his siblings, worked as a fireman on the steam shovel, another was a blacksmith, and yet another worked for Campbell's Sand and Cement company.(8)

According to an article written on Loreley and its African American residents printed in the Sun in 1999, much of the area consists of members of an extended family. Residents remember their ancestors working on a large farm in the area, electricity did not arrive in their homes until the 1940s, Loreley Road was not macadamized until the 1950s, and until the 1990s residents drank water from wells.(9)

ENDNOTES

1. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
2. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
3. Map of Baltimore County (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).
4. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys, (Baltimore, MD: J.C. Sidney, 1850).
5. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
6. Louis Diggs, Interview with Amos Gassaway Harvey, Sr. (Baltimore: 25 May 2003).
7. Louis Diggs, Interview with Amos Gassaway Harvey, Sr. (Baltimore: 25 May 2003).
8. Louis Diggs, Interview with Amos Gassaway Harvey, Sr. (Baltimore: 25 May 2003).
9. Jay Apperson, "Black enclaves no longer shunned," The Sun, 13 April 1999.

OWNERSHIP AS OF 18 AUGUST 2003

233 Loreley Rd. John and Maggie Tribble -- id # 1108056160
map 73 parcel 285 Baltimore County Courthouse
libre 5604 folio 501

301 Loreley Rd. Daniel L. Shumaker -- id # 1102048320

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No BA-3124

Name Loreley African American Survey District

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

map 73 parcel 295	Baltimore County Courthouse libre 17783 folio 182
307 Loreley Rd. map 73 parcel 191	Joseph H. and Elizabeth K. Williams -- id # 1123051450 Baltimore County Courthouse libre 13915 folio 368
320 Loreley Rd. map 73 parcel 161	Arvell Williams, Jr. -- tax id # 1123051550 Baltimore County Courthouse libre 18170 folio 561
321 Loreley Rd. map 73 parcel 327	George and Esther Holley -- id # 1108068200 Baltimore County Courthouse libre 3489 folio 99
332 Loreley Rd. map 73 parcel 108	Steven L. Sentz -- id # 1119027982 Baltimore County Courthouse libre 8920 folio 382
341 Loreley Rd. map 73 parcel 278	Sylvia L. Anderson -- id # 1113092150 Baltimore County Courthouse libre 14799 folio 423
347 Loreley Rd. map 73 parcel 160	Extra F. Powell -- id # 1123051725 Baltimore County Courthouse libre 14006 folio 629

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-3124

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property acres

Acreage of historical setting Unknown

Quadrangle name White Marsh, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Loreley African American Survey District is located near Loreley in the Eleventh District of Baltimore County. The properties within this district have historically been associated with tax map 73 since their construction.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristie Baynard, Architectural Historian

organization EHT Traceries, Inc.

date 8/18/03

street and number 1121 Fifth Street, NW

telephone 202-393-1199

city or town Washington

state DC zip code 20001

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3124

Name Loreley African American Survey District

Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

The Sun. 13 April 1999.

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory, Office of Planning, Towson.

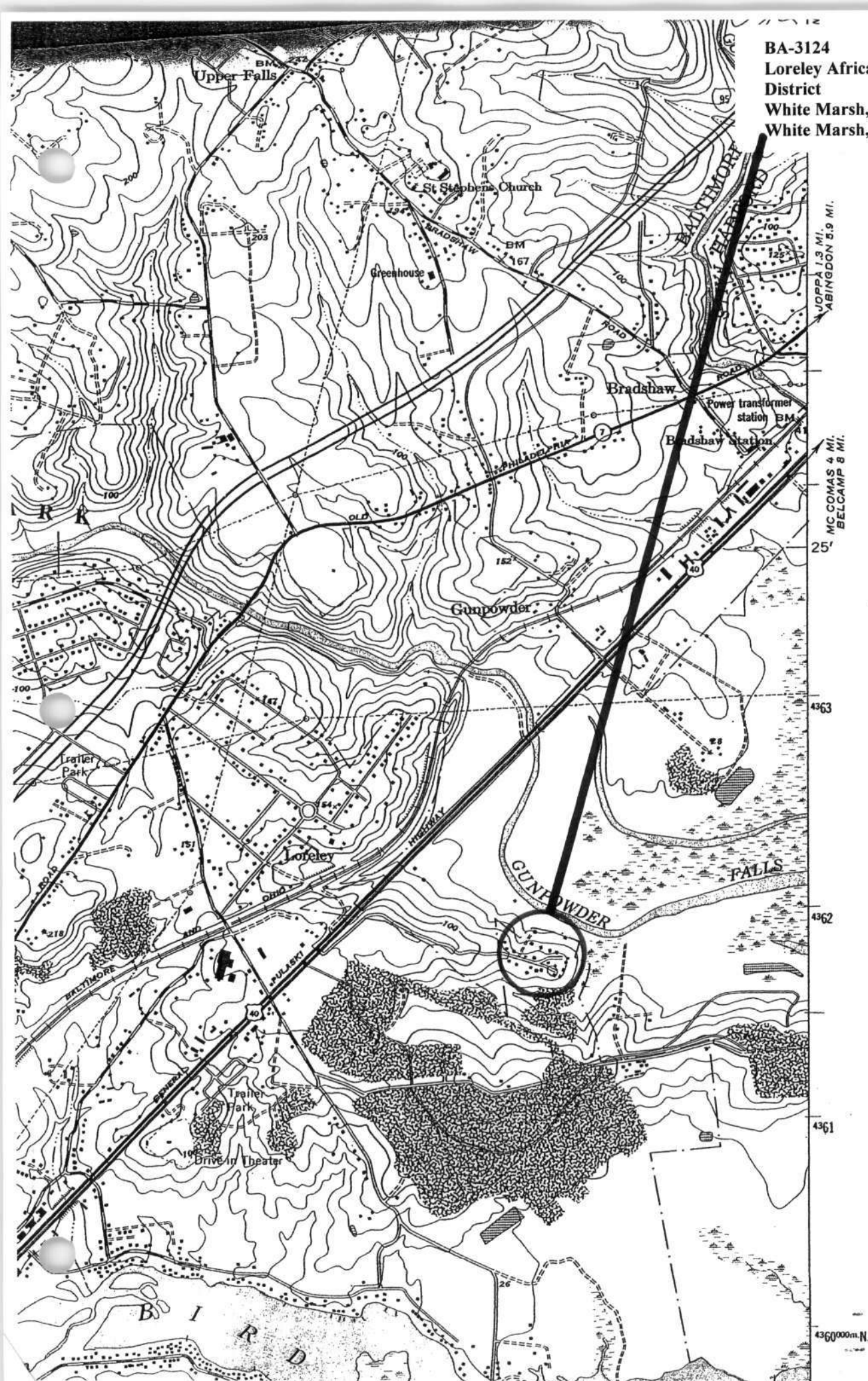
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. A History of Baltimore County. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

BA-3124
Loreley African American Survey
District
White Marsh, Baltimore County
White Marsh, MD USGS Map





BA-3124

LORELEY AFRILAN AMERICAN SURVEY DISTRICT

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

6/2003

MD SHPO

Asbury M.E. Church (BA-357), north-west
corner

1 of 13



BA-3124

LORELEY AFRICAN AMERICAN SURVEY DISTRICT

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

6/2003

MD SHPO

Asbury M.E. Church cemetery, view looking
north

2 of 13



BA- 3124

LORELEY AFRICAN AMERICAN SURVEY DISTRICT

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

6/2003

MD SHPO

Loreley School (BA-131), view looking north-
west

3 of 13



BA-3124

LORELEY AFRICAN AMERICAN SURVEY DISTRICT

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

6/2003

MD SHPD

5701 Allender Rd, view looking west

4 of 13



BA-3124

Loreley African-American survey District

Baltimore County, MD

Tractries

6/2013

mid SHPO

LORELEY SCHOOL (BA 358), 11646 Philadelphia Road, View looking SW

5 of 13



BA 3124

LORELEY AFRICAN AMERICAN SURVEY DISTRICT

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

6/2003

MD SHPO

Philadelphia Road, south side, view looking
north-east

6 of 13



BA-3124

LORELEY AFRICAN AMERICAN SURVEY DISTRICT

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

6/2003

MD SHPO

11339 Philadelphia Rd, view looking East

7 of 13



BA-3124
Lovely African American Survey District
White Marsh
Baltimore County, MD
Traceries
6/2003
MD SHPO
Lovely Road
8 of 13



BA-3124

Lorely African American Survey District
White Marsh

Baltimore County, MD

Traceries

6/2003

MD SHPO

Lorely Road

9 of 13



BA-312†
Lorclly African American Survey District
White Marsh
Baltimore County, MD
Traceries
6/2003
MD SHPO
Lorclly Road
10 of 12



BA-3124

Lorely African American survey District
White Marsh

Baltimore County, MD

Traceries

6/2003

MD SHPO

Lorely Road

11 of 13



BA-3124
Lovely African American Survey District
White Marsh
Baltimore County, MD
Traveries
6/2003
MD SHPS
Lovely Road
12 of 13



BA-3124
Lorcy African American survey District
White Marsh
Baltimore County, MD
Traceries
6/2003
MD SHPO
Lorcy Road
13 of 13